

**Remarks**

Applicants respectfully request entry of the above-presented amendments to the claims. Claim 2 has been amended and to claim methods of treating neuropathic pain using the compounds recited in the specification as Formula IV. Claim 3 has been amended to place the claim in proper format. Claim 4 has been amended to reflect an election of species, discussed further below.

Applicants are required to elect a single invention for examination. Subject to the traversal contained in the remarks provided below, Applicants provisionally elect the invention of claim 2 directed to methods of treating neuropathic pain using a compound wherein R<sup>1</sup> is propyl, R<sup>2</sup> is hydrogen, R<sup>3</sup> is absent, R<sup>4</sup> is hydrogen, R<sup>5</sup> is -CF<sub>3</sub>, R<sup>6</sup> is hydrogen, R<sup>7</sup> is hydrogen, R<sup>8</sup> is -OCH<sub>3</sub>, R<sup>9</sup> is hydrogen, X is oxygen, R<sup>10</sup> is hydrogen and n is 1. This species is identified in Example IV-23.

Applicants respectfully point out that claims directed to compounds of the claim 2 generic formula have been issued in U.S. Patent No. 6,812,234. A supplemental information disclosure statement containing this reference is submitted herewith.

If there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this election, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to expedite prosecution of this case.

Attorney for Applicants can be reached at the telephone number and address below. Correspondence should continue to be sent to the address below. Although no fees are believed to be due, any fees occasioned by this paper or any fee overpayments should be charged or credited to Deposit Account **13-2755**.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

David Rubin  
Registration Number 40,314  
Attorney for Applicants

MERCK & CO., Inc.  
P.O. Box 2000  
Rahway, New Jersey 07065-0907  
(732) 594-2675

Date: July 19, 2007